The Fore-Runner OF REVENGE,

Being two Petitions:

THE ONE

To the KINGS moſt Excellent Majeſty:

THE OTHER

To the moſt Honourables Houſes of Parliament.

Wherein is expreſſed divers actions of the late Earle of *Buckingham*; eſpecially concerning the death of King *James*, and the Marqueſſe *Hamelton*, ſuppoſed by Poyſon.

Alſo may be obſerved the inconveniences befalling a State where the Noble diſpoſition of the Prince is miſ-led by a Favourite.

By *George Eglisham* Doctor of Phyſick, and one of the Phyſitians to King *James* of happy memory, for his Majeſties perſon above ten yeares ſpace.

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To the moſt Potent Monarch, CHARLE KING of Great BRITAINE.

The humble Petition of George Egliſham, *Doctor of Phyſicke, lately of King* JAMES *his Phyſitians for his Majeſties perſon above the ſpace of ten yeares.*

SIR,

NO better motive there is for a ſafe government, then the f meditation of death, (equalling Kings with Beggars) and t exact juſtice of God requiring them, that the good ſuffer miſery of this life, ſhould receive joy in the other, and t wicked flouriſhing ſecurely in this, might be puniſhed in t other. That which pleaſeth laſteth but a moment; which to menteth, is everlaſting. Many things we ſee unrewarded unpuniſhed in this inferiour world, which in the univer weight of Gods juſtice, muſt be counterpoiſed elſewhe But wilfull and ſecret murther hath ſeldome beene obſerved to eſcape undiſcove or unpuniſhed even in this life, ſuch a particular and notable revenge perpetuall followeth it, to the end that they who are either Athieſts or Machiaveliſts, may n truſt too much to their wits in doing ſo horrible injuſtice; would to God your Ma jeſty would well conſider what I have often ſaid to my Maſter King *James*, t greateſt policy is honeſty; and howſoever any man ſeeme to himſelfe wiſe in com paſſing his deſires by tricks, yet in the end he will prove a foole: for falſhood er deceiveth her owne maſter at length, as the devill (author of all falſhood) alwaye doth, leaving his adherents deſolate when they have the greateſt need of his help No falſhood without injuſtice, no injuſtice without falſhood, albeit it were in the per ſon of a King.

There is no Judge in the world more tied to doe juſtice then a King, whoſe Co ronation tyeth him unto it by ſolemne oath, which if hee violate, hee is falſe an perjured.

It is juſtice that maketh Kings, juſtice that maintaines Kings, and injuſtice th brings Kings and Kingdomes to deſtruction, to fall into miſery, to die like Aſſes i ditches, or a more beaſtly death, eternall infamy after death, as all hiſtories fro time to time do cleately manifeſt.

What need hath mankinde of Kings but for juſtice? Men are not borne for them but they for men: what greater, what more royall occaſion in the world could bee offered to your Majeſty to ſhew your impartiall diſpoſition in matters of juſtice a the firſt entry of your raigne, then this which I offer in my iuſt complaint againſt *Buckingham*, by whom your Majeſty ſuffereth your ſelfe ſo farre to be led, that you

subiects are in doubt whether he is your King, or you his. If your Maiestie know consider how he hath tyrannized over his Lord and Master King *James*, (the kindly creator of his fortunes) how insolent, how ingrate an oppressor, what a murderer and traytor hee hath proved himselfe towards him, how trecherous to his upholding friends, the Marquesse of *Hamelton*, and others, your Maiesty may thinke (giving way to the Lawes demanded against him) to yeeld a most glorious field for your Maiesty to walke in, and display the banners of your royall vertues.

Your Maiesty may perhaps demand, what interest I have therein, what have I to doe therewith, that I should stir, all others being quiet? Sir, the quietnesse or stirring of others, expecteth onely a beginning from me, whom they know so much obliged to stir, as none can be more, both in respect of knowledge of passages, and in regard of humane obligation, and of my independency from the accused, or any other that his power or credit can reach unto, many know not what I know therein, others are little or nothing beholding to the dead; other albeit they know it as well as I, and are obliged as deep as I, yet dare not complain so safely as I, being out of their reach, who are inseparable from him by his inchantments, and all to obscure my selfe, untill the power of iust revenge upon him be obtained from God.

What I know sufficient against him, I have set downe in my petition against him to the Parliament; to whom if your Maiesty dismisse him, sequestred from your Maiesty chiefly in an accusation of treason, you shall doe what is iust, & deliver your self and your Kingdome from the captivitie in which he holdeth them, and your Maiesty oppressed. How easily I may eclipse my selfe from his power to do me harm, unlesse he hath legions of infernall spirits at his command to pursue me, your Maiesty may well know, I being *ultra mare* to these dominions where he ruleth and rageth.

How far I am obliged to complain more than others, I will in few words expresse, that neither your Maiesty nor any man may thinke otherwise, but that I have most iust reason not to be silent in a wrong so intollerable, the interest of blood which I have to any of them, of whose death I complain either by the losse of *Balgony Lundy*, or *Silverton-Hill*, albeit it is easie to be made manifest and sufficient to move me, yet it is not the sole motive of my breach of silence, but the interest of received courtesie, and the heap of infallible tokens of true affections, is more then sufficient to stir me thereto, unlesse I would prove the most ingrate in the world, and senseless of the greatest iniuries that can be done unto my selfe; for who killed K. *James*, and Marquesse *Hamelton*, in that part o the iniury which is done unto me therein, hee hath done as much as robbed me of my life, and all my fortunes and friends.

With such constant and loving impressions of me as are neither to be recovered, nor duly valued: for his Maiesty from the third yeare of my age did practise honorable tokens of singular favour towards me, daily augmented them in word, in writ, in deed, accompanied them with gifts, patents, offices, recommendations both in private and publike, at home and abroad, graced so farre, that I could scarce aske any thing, but I could have obtained it.

How much honour he hath done unto me there needs no witnesse unto your Majesty, who is sufficient for many; no lesse is my L. Marq. *Hameltons* friendship established by mutuall obligation of most acceptable offices continued by our ancestors these three generations, ingraven in the tender mindes and yeares of the Marquesse and me in the presence of our Soveraign K. *James*. For when the Marquesse his Father, who with the right hand on his head, and the left on mine, did offer us (young in yeares so joyned) to kisse his Majesties hand, recommending me to his Maiesties favour, said, I take God to witnesse, that this young mans Father was the best friend that ever I had, or shall have in this world. Whereupon the young Lord resolved to put trust in me, and I fully to addict my selfe to him, to deserve of him as much commendations as my Father did of his Father.

This Royall celebration of our friends rooted it selfe so deep in my minde, that to my self I purposed this remembrance, giving it to my young Lord, and to my familiar friends, and set it upon the bookes of my study, *Semper Hameltonium, &c.*

Alwayes the King and Hamelton
Within thy breast conserve,
What ever be thy actions,
Let Princes two deserve,

Neither was it in vaine, for both our loves increased with our age, the Marquesse promising to ingage his life and whole estate for me, if need were, and so share his fortunes with me; and not only promising, but also performing when ever there was occasion; yea, for my sake offering to hazzard his life in combate, whose minde in wishing me well, whose tongue in honouring of me, and whose hands and meanes in defending me (both absent and present, unto the last period of his life) hath ever assisted me.

I should be more tedious then were fit, if I should rehearse every particular favour so manifestly known to the whole Court, and to the friends of us both, who then can justly blame me, demanding justice as well for the slaughter of the Marquesse of *Hamelton*, as of my most gracious Soveraign K. *James*, seeing I know whom to accuse; My profession of Physick, nor my education to Letters, cannot serve to hinder me from undertaking the hardest enterprise that ever any Romane undertook, so far as the Law of conscience will give way.

Why should I stay at the decay
Of Hameltons *the hope,*
Why shall I see thy foe so free,
Unto this joy give scope?
Rather I pray a dolefull day
Set me in cruell fate:
Then thy death strange Without revenge,
Or him in safe estate.

This soule to heavens hand to the dead I vow,
No fraudfull minde, no trembling hand I have:
If pen it shun, the sword revenge shall follow.
Soule, Pen, and Sword, what thing but just doe crave,

What affection I bore to the living, the same shall accompany the dead: for when one (whose truth and sincerity was well knowne unto me) told me that it was better that the chiefest of my friends, the Marquesse of Hamelton, to be quiet at home in Scotland, then eminent in Court of England; to whom by the opinion of the wiser sort, his being at Court will cost him no lesse then his life, sith that I stretching forth mine arme (apprehending some plots laid against him) answered, if no man dare to revenge his death, I now vow to God this hand of mine shall revenge it, scarcely any other cause to bee found, then the bond of our close friendship, why in the scrowle of Noble mens names who were to be killed, I should be set downe next the Marquesse of Hamelton, and under those words, viz. (*the Marquesse and Doctor Eglisham to embalme him*) to wit, that no discoverer or revenger should be left, this roll of names, I know not by what destiny, was found neare to Westminster, about the time of the Duke of Richmond his death, and brought to the Lord Marquesse by his cozen the daughter of the Lord Oldbarre, one of the privy Counsell of Scotland, did cause no terrour in me until I did see the Marquesse poysoned, and remembred that the rest therein noted, were dead, and my selfe next pointed at only surviving, why stay I any more, the cause requireth no more the pen but the sword.

I doe not write so boldly, because I am amongst the Dukes enemies, but I have retired my selfe to his enemies because I was resolved to write and doe earnestly against him, as may very well appeare: for since the Marquesse of Hamelton's death, the most noble Marquesse *de Fiatta*, Embassador for the most Christian King of France, and also Buckingham his mother sent on every side to seeke me, inviting me to them; but I did forsake them, knowing certainly the falshood of Buckingham would suffer the Embassador rather to receive an affront then to be unsatisfied of his blood, thirsty desire of my blood, to silence me with death (for according to the proverbe, *The dead cannot bite*) if he could have found me: for my Lord Duke *of Lenox*, who was often crossed by *Buckingham*, with his brother, and the Earle of Southampton now dead, was one of the roll found of those that were to be murthered, well assure me that where *Buckingham* once misliked, no apologie, no submission, no reconciliation could keepe him from doing mischiefe.

Neither do I write this in this fashion so freely for any entertainement here present which I have not, nor for any future which I have no ground to looke for, seeing *Buckingham* hath so much misled your Ma. that he hath cause not onely here, but also in all nations, all Britain Natives to be disgraced and mistrusted, your Ma. most royall word, which should be inviolable, your hand and seal which should be infringable, to be most shamefully violated and your selfe to be most ingrate for

your kinde usage in Spain, which *Buckingham* maketh to be requited with injuries in a most base manner; under protestation of friendship, a bloody war being kindled on both sides, whereby he hath buryed with K. *James*, the glorious name of *Peace-making-King*, who had done much more justly and advisedly if he had procured peace unto Christendome, whereby small hope I have of obtaining justice on my most just complaint, unto which my deare affection unto my deare friends murthered and extreame detestation of *Buckingham* his violent proceedings hath brought me. Your Majesty may finde most just causes to accuse him in my Petition to the Parliament, which shall serve for a touch-stone to your Majesty, and a whetstone to me, and many other Scotchmen; and which if it be neglected, will make your Majesty to incur a censure amongst all vertuous men in the world, that your Majesty will be loath to heare of, and I am astonished to expresse at this time,

A Serpent lurketh in the grasse.

No other way there is to be found to save your honour, but to give way to justice against that traytor *Buckingham*, by whom manifest danger approcheth to your Majesty, no otherwise then death approcheth to King *James*.

If your Majesty will therefore take any course therein, the examination upon oath of all those that were about the King, and the Marquesse of *Hamelton* in their sickenesse, or at their deaths, or after their deaths, before indifferent Judges (no dependants on *Buckingham*) will serve for sufficient proofe of *Buckingham* his guiltinesse, In the meane time, untill I see what will be the issue of my complaint, without any more speech, I rest,

Your Majesties daily suppliant,
George Eglisham.

To the most Honourable the Nobility, Knights and Burgesses of the Parliament of ENGLAND.

The humble Petition of George Eglisham *Doctor of Physicke, and one of the Physitians to K.* James *of happy memory, for his Majesties person above the space of ten yeares.*

WHereas the chiefe humane care of Kings, and Courts of Parliament, is, the preservation and protection of the subiects lives, liberties and estates, from Private and Publike iniuries, to the end that all things may be carried in the equall ballance of justice, without which no monarchy, no Common wealth, no society, no family, yea no mans life or estate can consist albeit never so little: It cannot bee thought unjust to demand of Kings and parliaments the censure of wrongs, the consideration whereof was so great in our Monarch of happy memory King JAMES, that he hath often publikely Protested, even in the Presence of his apparant heire, that if his owne sonne should commit murther or any such execrable act of iniury, he would not spare him, but would have him die for it, and would have him more severely Punished then any other: For he very well observed, no greater iniustice, no iniury more intollerable can be done by man to man, then murther. In all other

wrongs

wrongs fortune hath recourse, the losse of honour or goods may be repaired, satisfaction may be made, reconciliation may be procured, so long as the party injured is alive. But when the party murthered is bereft of his life, what can restore it? what satisfaction can be given him? where shall the murtherer meet with him to be reconciled to him, unlesse hee be sent out of this world to follow his spirit, which by his wickednesse he hath seperated from his body? Therefore of all injuries, of all the acts of iniustice, of all things most to be looked into, murther is the greatest: And of all murthers, the poysoning under trust and profession of friendship, is the most heynous, which if you suffer to goe unpunished, let no man thinke himselfe so secure to live amongst you, as amongst the wildest and most furious beasts in the world: for by vigilancy and industry, meanes may be had to resist or evict the most violent beast that ever nature bred, but from false and treacherous hearts, from poysoning murthers, what wit or wisedome can defend?

This concerneth your Lordships every one in particular, as well as my selfe. They (of whose poysoning your Petitioner complayneth) viz. King JAMES, the Marquesse HAMELTON, and others whose names after shall be expressed, have beene the most eminent in the Kingdome, and sate on these Benches whereon your Honours doe now sit. The party whom your Petitioner accuseth, is the Duke of Buckingham, who is so powerfull, that unlesse the whole body of a Parliament lay hold on him, no iustice can be had of him: For what place is there of iustice, what office of the Crowne what degree of honour in the Kingdome, which he hath not sold? And sold in such craft, that he can shake the buyer out of them, and intrude others at his pleasure.

All the Judges of the Kingdome, all the Officers of State, are his bound vassels, or allies are afraid to become his out-casts, as it is notorious to all his Maiesties true and loving Subiects; yea, so far hath his ambitious practice gone, that what the King would have done, could not be done if he opposed it, whereof many instances may be given, whensoever they shall be required: Neither are they unknowne to this Honourable assembly, howsoever the meanes he useth be, whether lawfull or unlawfull, whether humane or diabolique, so he tortureth the Kingdome, that he procureth the calling, breaking or continuing of the Parliament at his pleasure, placing and displacing the officers of Justice of the Councell of the Kings Court, of the Courts of iustice to his violent pleasure, and as his ambitious villany moveth him: What hope then can your Petitioner have, that his complaints should be heard; or being heard, should take effect? To obtain iustice, he may despaire; to provoke the Duke to send forth a poysoner or murtherer to dispatch him, and send him after his dead friends already murthered, he may be sure this to be the event. Let the event bee what it will, come whatsoever can come, the losse of his own life your Petitioner valueth not, having suffered the losse of the lives of such eminent friends, esteeming his life cannot be better bestowed, then upon discovery of so heynous murthers, yea, the iustnesse of the cause, the deerenesse and neerenesse of his friends murthered, shall prevaile so far with him that he shall unfold unto your Honours, and unto the whole world, against the accused, and name him the author of so great murthers, *Georg*

Villi

Villers, Duke of *Buckingham*, which against any private man, are sufficient for his apprehension and torture. And to make his complaint not very tedious, he will only for the present, declare unto your Honours, the two eminent murthers committed by *Buckingham*, to wit, of the Kings Majesty, and of the Lord Marquesse *Hamelton*, which for all the subtilty of his poysoning Art, could not be so cunningly covered as the murtherer thought, but that God hath discovered manifestly the author. And to observe the order of the time of their death, because the Lord Marquesse of *Hamelton* dyed first, his death shall be first related, even from the root of his first quarrell with *Buckingham*, albeit many other jarres have proceeded from time to time betwixt them.

Concerning the poysoning of the Lord Marquesse HAMELTON.

BUCKINGHAM once raised from the bottome of Fortunes wheele to the top, by what right or wrong, no matter it is, (by his carriage the proverb is verified) *Nothing more proud then basest blood, when it doth rise aloft.* He suffered his ambition to carry himselfe so far, as to aspire to match his blood with the Blood-Royall both of England and Scotland. And well knowing, that the Marquesse of *Hamelton* was acknowledged by K. *James* to be the prime man in his dominions, who next to his own line, in his proper season might claime an hereditary Title to his Crown of Scotland, by the daughter of K. *James* the second, and to the Crown of England by Joan of Sommersetshire, wife to King *James* the first, declared by an Act of Parliament Heretrix of England to be in her due ranke, neither suffered the King to be at rest, but urged him alwayes to send some of his Privie Counsell to solicite the Marquesse to match his eldest sonne with Buckinghams Neece, making great promises of conditions, which the meane family of the Bride could not performe, without the Kings liberality, to wit, fiftie thousand pound Sterling, valuing five hundred thousand Florens with the Earledome of Orkney, under the title of Duke, whatsoever the Marquesse would accept, even to the first Duke of Britaine.

The glorious Title of a Duke the Marquesse refused twice, upon speciall reasons reserved to himselfe.

The matter of mony was no motive to cause the Marquesse to match his son so unequall to his degree, seeing *Buckingham* himself, the chief of her kindred was but a novice in Nobility, his father obscure amongst Gentlemen, his mother a Serving woman: and he being infamous for his frequent consultation with the Ringleader of Witches, principally that false Dr. *Lamb*, publikely condemned for Witchcraft; whereby the Marquesse knowing that the King was so far bewitched to *Buckingham*, that if he refused the match demanded, he should find the Kings deadly hatred against him; And seeing that *Buckinghams* Neece was not yet Nubile in yeares, and that before the marriage should be confirmed, a way might be found out to annull it, unto which he was forced by deceitfull importunity: therefore he yeelded unto the Kings desire of the match; whereupon *Buckingham* and his faction fearing that delayes would bring lets urged my Lo: Marquesse to send for his son upon a Sunday morning betimes in all haste from *London* to Court at *Greenwich*, where never a word was spoken of marriage to the young Lord, till a little before Supper, and the marriage made before the King after Supper. And to make it more Authenticke, *Buckingham* caused his Neece to be laid in bed with the Marquesse his son, for a short time in the Kings Chamber, and in his Majesties presence, albeit the Bride was innubile. Many were astonish at the sudden newes thereof; all the Marquesse his friends fretted thereat, and some writing unto him very scornfull Letters for the same.

The Marquesse having satisfied the Kings demands, did what he could to prevent the confirmation of the marriage, and intended to send his son beyond the seas to travell through France, and so to passe his time abroad untill that meanes were found to unty that knot which *Buckingham* had urged the King to tie upon his son.

But Buckingham to countermand the Marqueſſe his deſigne, cauſes the King and Prince to make the Marqueſſe his ſonne to be ſworne Gentleman of the Princes Bed Chamber, and ſo to bee detained with him within the Kingdome, vntill that the Bride was at yeares ripe for marriage.

The time expired that Buckinghams Neece became marriageable Buckingham ſent to the Marqueſſe to deſire him to make the marriage to be compleatly confirmed.

The Marqueſſe (not willing to heare of any ſuch matter) anſwered briefly, he ſcorned the motion.

This anſwer reported to Buckingham, and ſeeing himſelfe like to be fruſtrated of his ambitious matching of his Neece, and perceiving that the Lord Marqueſſe was able to raiſe a great faction againſt him, whether K. Iames did live or die, was mightily incenſed againſt the Marqueſſe: At the firſt encounter with him, did challenge him for ſpeaking diſdainfully of him and his Houſe.

The Marqueſſe replyed, he did not remember any offenſive words uttered by himſelfe againſt Buckingham. Buckingham then proudly ſaid unto him, Out of the words of thy mouth I will judge thee: for you have ſaid you ſcorn the motion of matching with my Houſe, which I made unto you. The Marqueſſe anſwered, that if he had ſaid ſo, it became not the Duke to ſpeake unto him in that faſhion. So Buckingham threatned to be revenged: The Marqneſſ uttered his defiance; and thus the quarrell began, which foure or five times was reiterated, and as often reconciled by the Marqueſſe of De Fiatta. a little before the Marqueſſe of Hamelton fell ſick: wherein it is very evident, that the quarrell hath been very violent, that needed ſo many reconciliations. The Dukes fite of his anger, and fury being unextinguiſhable, as King Iames did often cenſure him in his abſence, albeit that a Favourite, that hee was wonderfull vindicative, whoſe malice was inſatiable towards my Lord Marqueſſe of Hamelton, did well ſhew it ſelfe, as ſhall appeare hereafter.

Hardly can any man tell whether by the Marqueſſe in his ſickneſſe, Buckingham was more ſuſpected then accuſed of the poyſon given or to be given him: for he would not taſte of any thing that was ſent to him by any of Buckinghams friends: but he would have ſome of his ſervants taſte of it before: and for the love that was mutuall betweene him and your Petitioner (whom hee would never ſuffer to goe out of his ſight during his ſickneſſe) your Petitioner caſt off all that he tooke in that time, unto whom in ſuſpition of Buckingham he expreſſed by name before ſufficient witneſſe, who will teſtifie it upon oath, if there be any courſe taken therein for the ſearch thereof. All the time of his ſickneſſe he intreated your Petitioner not to ſuffer my Lord of Buckingham to come neere him, and your Petitioner having often ſent word, and alſo ſometimes ſignified himſelfe to Buckingham, that there was no fit oppertunity to ſee the Marqueſſe, pretending ſome thing to be miniſtred to him But when your Petitioner could finde no more excuſes, he told my Lord Marqueſſe that he had put away my Lord of Buckingham ſo often, that he couldnot keepe him away any longer, but that he muſt needs ſee him.

Then hee knowing Buckinghams viſitation to proceed of diſſimulation, requeſted your petitioner at laſt to finde the meanes to get him away quickly:

which your Petitioner did, interrupting Buckingham his discourse, and intreating him to suffer my Lord Marquesse to be quiet.

This did evidently shew my Lord Marquesse his disliking and distrusting of Buckingham, whereas he was well pleased with other Noblemens Company. All the time of his sickneſſe, the Duke and my Lord Denbigh would not suffer his owne sonne to come to him, pretending that he was also sicke; which was false for the time that my Lord Marquesse called for him. after this your Petitioner advised his Lordship to dispose of his estate, and of his conscience, his sickneſſe was not without danger, which your Petitioner foure dayes my Lords death, did in such manner perceive, that he had cause to dispaire of his healh but intreated him to commit all the care of his health to God & his Physitians, assuring howsoever hee had gotten wrong abroad, he should get none in the cure of his disease.

At last his Lordship burst out in these words, to my Lord of Denbigh, it is a great cruelty in you, that you will not suffer my son to come to me when I am dying, that I may see him, and speake to him before I dye. So they delaying his comming with excuses, until my Lord his agony of death was neere, to the end that he should not have time to give his sonne private instructions, to shun the marriage of Buckinghames Neece, or to signifie unto him the suspition of poyson: for they had rather his sonne should know any thing, then either of these; yet many did suspect his poyson before he died: for two dayes before his death, two of his servants died with manifest signs and suspition of poyson, the one belonging to the Wine-seller, the other to the Kitchin.

The Fatall houre being come, that my Lord Marquesse deceased, your Petitioner intreated all were present, to suffer no man to touch his body, untill that he returned to see it opened. For then he protested earnestly, that all the time of his sickneſſe, he judged him to be poysoned; but this poyson was such, and so far gone, that none could helpe it: Nevertheleſſe, to have the matter concealed, Buckingham would have him buried that same night at Westminster Church, and the Ceremonies of his burial to be kept afterwards, saying, that such delicate bodies as his could not be kept.

But his friends taking hold of the caveat before given by your Petitioner, refused so to doe, and replyed, that they would have him, as became him, to be buried in Scotland in his owne Chappell, where all his Ancestors have been buried for more then these foure hundred yeares; and that his body must first be visited by his Physitians.

No sooner was he dead, when the force of the poyson had overcome the force of his body, but it began to swell in such sort, that his Thighes were swolne sixe times as bigge as their naturall proportion; his Belly became as bigge as the belly of an Oxe, his Armes as the naturall quantity of his Thighes, his Neck so broad as his Shoulders, his Cheekes over the top of his Nose that his Nose could not be seen or distinguished. the skin of his fore-head, two fingers high swelled, the haire of his beard eye-browes and head, so farr distant one from another, as if an hundred had been taken one betweene each one; and when one did touch the haire it came away with the skin as easily, as if one had pulled hay out of an heape of hay. He was all over his neck, breast, shoulders,

armes, and browes, I say of divers colours, full of waters of the same colours some white some black, some red, some yellow, some greene, some blew, and that as well within his body as without.

Also the concavities of his liver greene, his stomack in some places a little purpurated with a blew clammy water, adhering to the sides of it, His mouth and nose foaming blood mixt with froath mightily of divers colours, a yard high. Your Petitioner being sent for to view his body, and his servants all flocking about him saying, see, see, presently weeping, said he was poysoned, and that it was a thing not to be suffered. Moreover, he said, that albeit his speech might cost him his life, yet seing his sorrow had extorted that speech out of him, he would make it manifest, and would have a Jury of Physitians. Presently some of the Marquess of Hamiltons friends said, we must send to my L. Duke, that he may send his Physitians, but your Petitioner replyed, what have we to do with the D. Physitians? Let us have indifferent men, Captain Hamelton hearing your Petitioner so boldly take exceptions at Buckingham, and judging that he had good reason for what he had spoken, said, for all that let us send to the D. and signifie that they all who have seen the Marquesse his body, both Physitians, Chyrurgeons, and others may see that he is poysoned, and that his friends desire more Physitians out of the Colledge of London besides the D. Physitians, to beare witnesse in what case the Marquesse his body is in; and then if the D. conscience be guilty (said the Capt.) it will shew it selfe, as indeed it did: or the D. being advertised hereof, sent for his owne Physitians, & others out of London, who he caused first to be brought unto him, before they went to see the Marquesse his body, giving his directions in these words, viz.

My Masters, there is a bruit spread abroad, that the Marquesse of Hamelton is poysoned, Go see, but beware what you speake of poyson (which he said in a threatning forme of delivery) for every Nab in that sheth must be poysoned.

If his conscience had not been guilty should not he have commanded the Physitians to enquire by all meanes possible, and make it knowne rather then to suppresse the speech of poysoning so worthy a man.

The Physitians being come your Petitioner with one hand leading D. **More** to the Table where the Marquess his body was layd, and with the other hand throwing of the cloth from the body said to him, look here upon this spectacle.

At the sight thereof D. **More** lifting up both his hands, heart and eyes to the heavens, astonished, said, **Jesus blesse me**, I never saw the lik, I cannot distinguish a face upon him; and in like manner all the rest of the D. & also the Chyrurgeons affirmed, they had never saw the like, albeit that they have travelled and practised thorow the greatest part of Europe: onely one, that said. My L. of Southampton was blistered all within the breast, as my L. Marq. was Doctor **Leicester**, one of Buckinghams creatures, seing D. **More** & others so amazed at the sight of my Lords body, drew him first aside, and then the others, one after another, and whispered them in the eare to silence them.

Whereupon many went away, without speaking one word, the other who remained, acknowledged that those accidents of the dead body, could not be without poyson; but they said, they could not know how such a subtile art of poysoning could be brought into England; your Petitioner replyed, that money would bring both the Art and the Artist.

They all admire the deſcription of my Lord Marqueſſe his body, and teſtifie, that never any of the peſt, have ſuch accidents but Carbuncles. Rubons, or Spots, no ſuch huge blifters with waters, and ſuch a huge uniforme ſwelling to ſuch dimentions above ſix times the naturall proportion. But he hath met with ſome, who have practiſed the poyſoning of Dogs, to try the force of ſome antidotes, and they have found that ſome poyſons have made the dogs ſick for a fortnight, or more without any ſwelling, untill they were dead, and then they ſwel ed above meaſure, and became bliſtered with waters of diverſe colours, and the haire came away with the skin when it was touched.

The Phyſitians then who remained were willing to certifie under their hands, that my Lord Marqueſſe was poyſoned. But your petitioner told them it was not needfull, ſince we muſt needs attend Gods leaſure to diſcover the author, the manner being ſo apparant, and ſo many hundreds having ſeene the body to witneſſe it, for the doores were kept open for every man to behold, and to be witneſſe who would.

The Duke of Buckingham making ſome counterfeit ſhew of ſorrow to men of great qualitie, found no other ſhift to divert the ſuſpition of the poyſoning of the Marqueſſe from him, but to lay it upon his maſter the King, ſaying, that the Marqueſſe for his perſon ſpirit and carriage, was ſuch as hee was born worthy to raigne; but the King his maſter hated him to death, becauſe he had a ſpirit too much for the Common weale; whereby the Duke did ſhew himſelfe no good ſubject to the King, who made the Kings honour to be tyrannicall, and the King a blood thirſty murtherer, and a moſt vile diſſembler, having heaped ſo many honours daily even to the laſt, making him Lord high Steward of his Majeſties houſe, and Iudge of the very Court, whom he had made before Viceroy of Scotland for the time of the Parliament in Scotland, Earle of Cambridge, privie Councellour in England, and Knight of the Garter, as if hee had raiſed him to all theſe honours, that the murthering of him might bee the leſſe ſuſpected to proceed from him.

The Kings nature hath alwayes beene obſerved to have beene ſo gracious and ſo free hearted towards every one, that he never would have wiſhed the Marqueſſe any harme, unleſſe that Buckingham had put great jealouſies and feares into his minde: for if any other had done it, he would have acquainted his favourite therewith. And then was it Buckinghams duty to remove from the King ſuch ſiniſtrous conceits of the Marqueſſe, as the Marqueſſe hath often done of Buckingham, upholding him upon all occaſions, and keeping the King from giving way to introduce any other favourite; whereupon Buckingham in that diverſion of the crime from him, and not only made the king, but alſo himſelfe guiltie of the Marqueſſe his death.

But Buckinghams falſehood and ill-intention was long before rightly diſcovered when he did what he could to make the Earle of Netherſdale and my Lord Gordon (both neare kinſmen to my Lord Marqueſſe) ſo incenſed at him that they had like all three to have killed one another, if it had not beene that my Lord Marqueſſe by his wiſedome, did let them all know how they were abuſed.

If any diſſimulation be greater than Buckinghams, let any man judge: For when

when my Lord Marqueſſe his body was to be tranſported from Whitehall to his houſe at Biſhops-gate, Buckingham came out muffled and furred in his Coach, giving out that he was ſick for ſorrow of my Lord Marqueſſe his death; but as ſoone as he went to his houſe out of London, before his comming to the King, he triumphed and domineered with his faction ſo exceſſively, as if he had gained ſome great victorie. And the next day comming to the King put on a moſt lamentable and mournfull countenance for the death of my Lord Marqueſſe. No greater victorie could he have gotten to his mind, than to have deſtroyed that man who could and would have fetched his head off his ſhoulders if he had outlived King Iames, to have knowne his carriage in the poyſoning of him in his ſickneſſe; wherefore he thought it moſt neceſſarie to remove the Marqueſſe before hand.

The ſame day that my Lord Marqueſs died, Buckinham ſent my Lotd Marqueſs his ſonne out of Town, keeping him as priſoner, that none could have private conference with him un till his marriage of Buckinghams Neece was compleat; but either my Lord Denbigh or my Lady Denbigh, or my Lord Duke of Buckingham, or the Dutches of Buckingham, or the Counteſſe of Buckingham, was preſent, that none could let him underſtand how his father was murthered. Even your petitioner himſelfe, when he went to ſee him, within few dayes after his fathers death, was intreated not to ſpeake to him of the poyſoning of his father, which he did conceale at his firſt meeting becauſe their ſorrow was too recent. But he was prevented of a ſecond meeting, neither would Buckingham ſuffer the young Lord to goe to Scotland to ſee his fathers funerall, and to take order with his friends concerning his fathers eſtate, for feare that their intended marriage ſhould be overthrowne.

This Captivitie of the young Lord Marqueſſe laſted ſo long, untill that Buckingham cauſed his Majeſtie King Charles, to take the young Lord with himſelfe and Buckingham into Saint Iames his Parke, diſcharging all others from following them; and there to perſwade and urge the young Lord, without any more delay to accompliſh the marriage with Buckingham his Neece, which inſtantly was performed: ſo that Buckingham truſteth and preſumeth, that albeit the young Lord ſhould underſtand how his father was poyſoned by his meanes, yet being married to his Neece, he would not ſtirre to revenge it, but comport with it.

To all that is obſerved before, it is worthy to be added, that the bruit went through London long before the Lord Duke of Richmonds death, or his brothers, or my Lord of Southamptons, or of the Marqueſſe, that all the Noblemen that were not of the Dukes faction, ſhould be poyſoned, and ſo removed out of his way.

Alſo a paper was found in Kings ſtreet, about the time of the Duke of Richmonds death, wherein the Names of all thoſe Noblemen who have dyed ſince were expreſſed; and your petitioners name alſo ſet next to my Lord marqueſſe of Hameltons name, with theſe words (to imbalme him) This paper was brought by my Lord Oldbarrs Daughter, coſin german to the Lord marqueſſe: Likewiſe a mountebanck, about that time, was greatly countenanced by the Duke of Buckingham, and by his meanes procured Letters patents, and re-

commendations from the King, to practise his skill in Physicke through all England; who comming to London, to sell poyson, to kill man or beast within a yeare, or halfe a yeare, or two yeares, or a moneth or two, or what time prefixed any man desired, in such sort that they could not be helped nor discovered. Moreover, the Chamberlain before my Lord Marquesse his death, one of the Prince his footmen said, That some of the great ones at Court had gotten poyson in their belly, but he could not tell who it was.

Here your Honours considering the premisses, of my Lord Duke of Buckingham his ambitious and most vindicative nature, his frequent quarrels with my Lord Marquesse, after so many reconciliations; his threatning of the Physitians, not to speake of the Poyson; his triumphing after my Lord Marquesse his death; his detaining of his Son almost prisoner, untill the Marriage was compleat with his Neece; the preceding bruit of poysoning Buckingham his Adversaries; the paper of their names found, with sufficient intimation of their death, by the conclusion of the word (embalming) the poyson: Monger, Mountebanke, graced by Buckingham, may suffice for ground to take him and torture him, if he were a private man: And herein your petitioner most earnestly demandeth instice against that Traytor, seeing by Act of Parliament it is made Treason to conspire the death of a Privie Councellor. Out of this Declaration, Interrogatories may be drawne for examination of Witnesses; wherein more is discovered to begin withall, then was layd open at the beginning of the Discovery of the poysoning of Sir Thomas Overbury.

Concerning the poysoning of King *Iames* of happie memory, King of Great Britaine.

THe Duke of Buckingham being in Spaine, advertised by Letters, how that the King began to censure him in his absence freely, and that many spake boldly to the King against him, and how the King had intelligence from Spaine of his unworthy carriage in Spaine; and how the Marquesse Hamelton (upon the sudden newes of the princes departure) had nobly reprehended the King for sending the Prince with such a young man without experience, and in such a private and sudden manner without acquainting the Nobility or Councell therewith, wrot a very bitter letter to the Marquesse of Hamelton, conceived new ambitious courses of his owne, and used all the devices he could to disgust the Princes minde of the match with Spaine, so farre, intended by the King, made haste home; where, when he came, he so carried himselfe, that whatsoever the King commanded in his Bed-chamber, hee controlled in the next; yea, received packets to the King from forraigne Princes, and dispatched answers without acquainting the King therewith, in a long time after. Whereat perceiving the King highly offended, and that the Kings minde was beginning to alter towards him, suffering him to be quarrelled and affronted in his Majesties presence; and observing that the King reservee my Lord of Bristoll to be a rod for him, urging daily his dispatch for France & expecting the Earle of Gondomor, who as it seemed was greatly esteemed and wonderfully credited by the King, and would second my Lord of Bristoll his accusations against him. He knew also that the K. had vowed that in despite of all the devils in hell, he would bring the Spanish match about again, & that the Marquesse of Inicosa had given the K. bad impressions of him by whose articles of accusation, the K. himselfe had examined

called some of the Nobilitie and privie Councell, and found out in the examination, that Buckingham had said after his comming from Spaine, that the King was now an old man, it was now time for him to bee at rest, and to be confined to some parke, to passe the rest of his time in hunting, and the Prince to be crowned.

The more the King urged him to be gone to France, the more shifts he made to stay: for he did evidently see that the King was fully resolved to rid himselfe of the oppression wherein he held him.

The King being sick of a certaine ague, and that in the spring, was of it selfe never found deadly; the Duke tooke his opportunitie when all the Kings Doctors of Physick were at dinner, upon the munday before the King dyed, without their knowledge or consent, offered to him a white powder to take: the which he a long time refused; but overcome with his flattering importunitie at length tooke it in wine, and immediately became worse and worse, falling into many swounings and pains, and violent fluxes of the belly so tormented, that his Majestie cryed out aloud of this white powder, would to God I had never taken it, it will cost me my life.

In like manner also the Countesse of Buckingham, my Lord of Buckinghams mother upon the Fryday after the Physitians being also absent, and at dinner, and not made acquainted with her doings, applyed a plaister to the Kings heart and breast; whereupon he grew faint, short breathed, and in a great agony. Some of the Physitians after dinner returning to see the king by the offensive smell of the plaister, perceived something to bee about him hurtfull unto him and searched what it should be, found it out, and exclaimed that the King was poysoned. Then Buckingham entring, commanded the Physitians out of the roome, caused one of them to be committed prisoner to his own chamber, and another to be removed from Court, quarrelled with others of the kings servants in his sick Majesties owne presence, so farre that hee offered to draw his sword against them in his Majesties sight. And Buckinghams mother kneeling downe before his Majestie, cryed out with a brazen face, justice, justice; Sir, I demand Justice of your Majestie. His Majestie asked her for what? For that which their lives are no wayes sufficient to satisfie, for saying that my son and I have poysoned your Majestie. Poysoned me said he; with that turning himselfe, swounded, and she was removed.

The Sunday after his Majesty dyed, and Buckingham desired the Physitians who attended his Majestie, to signe with their hands a writ of testimony, that the powder which he gave him, was a good and safe medicine, which they refused.

Buckinghams creatures did spread abroad a rumour in London, that Buckingham was so sorry for his Majesties death, that he would have dyed, that he would have killed himselfe if they had not hindred him; which your Petitioner purposely enquired after of them that were neere him at that time, who said that neither in the time of his Majesties sicknesse, nor after his death, hee was more moved, then if there had never happened either sicknesse or death to his Majestie.

One day when his Majestie was in great extremitie, he rode post to London to pursue his sister in Law to have her stand in sack-cloth in S. Pauls for adultery. And another time in his Majesties agony, he was busie in contriving and concluding a marriage for some of his cosens.

Immediately after his Majesties death, the Physitian who was commanded to

his Chamber was set at libertie with a Caveat to hold his peace; the others threatned if they kept not good tongues in their heads.

But in the meane time the Kings body and head swelled above measure, his haire with the skin of his head stuck to the pillow, his nailes became loose upon his fingers and toes.

Your Petitioner needeth to say no more to understanding men, only one thing he beseecheth, That taking the Traitor who ought to bee taken without any feare of his greatnesse, the other matters may bee examined and the accessaries with the guiltie punished.

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